

General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 298

February Session, 2010

LCO No. 1404

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Referred to Committee on Select Committee on Children

Introduced by: (KID)

AN ACT REQUIRING A FACTUAL BASIS FOR ACCEPTANCE OF A PLEA IN CERTAIN JUVENILE MATTERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. Subsection (c) of section 46b-129 of the 2010 supplement
- 2 to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in
- 3 lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2010*):
- 4 (c) The preliminary hearing on the order of temporary custody or
- 5 order to appear or the first hearing on a petition filed pursuant to
- 6 subsection (a) of this section shall be held in order for the court to: (1)
- 7 Advise the parent or guardian of the allegations contained in all
- 8 petitions and applications that are the subject of the hearing and the
- 9 parent's or guardian's right to counsel pursuant to subsection (b) of
- section 46b-135; (2) assure that an attorney, and where appropriate, a
- separate guardian ad litem has been appointed to represent the child
- 12 or youth in accordance with subsection (b) of section 46b-123e and
- sections 46b-129a and 46b-136; (3) assure that the respondent has had
- 14 <u>an opportunity to discuss a plea with an attorney and,</u> upon request,
- 15 appoint an attorney to represent the respondent when the respondent
- is unable to afford representation, in accordance with subsection (b) of

section 46b-123e; (4) advise the parent or guardian of the right to a hearing on the petitions and applications, to be held not later than ten days after the date of the preliminary hearing if the hearing is pursuant to an order of temporary custody or an order to show cause; (5) accept a plea regarding the truth of such allegations upon a finding that a factual basis exists for accepting such plea; (6) make any interim orders, including visitation, that the court determines are in the best interests of the child or youth. The court, after a hearing pursuant to this subsection, shall order specific steps the commissioner and the parent or guardian shall take for the parent or guardian to regain or to retain custody of the child or youth; (7) take steps to determine the identity of the father of the child or youth, including ordering genetic testing, if necessary, and order service of the petition and notice of the hearing date, if any, to be made upon him; (8) if the person named as the father appears, and admits that he is the father, provide him and the mother with the notices that comply with section 17b-27 and provide them with the opportunity to sign a paternity acknowledgment and affirmation on forms that comply with section 17b-27. Such documents shall be executed and filed in accordance with chapter 815y and a copy delivered to the clerk of the superior court for juvenile matters; (9) in the event that the person named as a father appears and denies that he is the father of the child or youth, advise him that he may have no further standing in any proceeding concerning the child, and either order genetic testing to determine paternity or direct him to execute a written denial of paternity on a form promulgated by the Office of the Chief Court Administrator. Upon execution of such a form by the putative father, the court may remove him from the case and afford him no further standing in the case or in any subsequent proceeding regarding the child or youth until such time as paternity is established by formal acknowledgment or adjudication in a court of competent jurisdiction; (10) identify any person or persons related to the child or youth by blood or marriage residing in this state who might serve as licensed foster parents or temporary custodians and order the Commissioner of Children and Families to investigate and determine, not later than thirty days after

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52 the preliminary hearing, the appropriateness of placement of the child 53 or youth with such relative or relatives; and (11) in accordance with 54 the provisions of the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children 55 pursuant to section 17a-175, identify any person or persons related to 56 the child or youth by blood or marriage residing out of state who 57 might serve as licensed foster parents or temporary custodians, and 58 order the Commissioner of Children and Families to investigate and 59 determine, within a reasonable time, the appropriateness of placement 60 of the child or youth with such relative or relatives.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following		
sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2010	46b-129(c)

KID Joint Favorable C/R